## Message Text

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2.1

**ACTION EA-10** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /054 W

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R 210745Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2919

CONFIDENTIAL SAIGON 1927

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON IMMEDIATE DTD 20 FEB 75 REPEATED

QUOTE

CONFIDENTIAL CANTHO 0066

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT MILI VS

SUBJECT: GVN ARREST DRAFTDODGERS IN CAMBODIAN PAGODAS

REF: CAN THO 0058

1. GVN EFFORTS IN VINH BINH TO INDUCE DRAFTDODGERS AND DESERTERS HIDING IN CAMBODIAN PAGODAS SURRENDER TO AUTHORITIES OVER PAST TWO DAYS HAS RESULTED IN TWO NASTY INCIDENTS IN WHICH 1 RF KILLED AND SEVERAL NATIONAL POLICEMEN WOUNDED. WHEN POLICE IN TRA CU(D) ENTERED VAN RAI PAGODA IN EFFORT PERSUADE EVADERS. THEY WERE ATTACKED BY CROWD ARMED WITH STICKS AND GRENADES WOUNDING ONE POLICEMEN. IN ANOTHER INCIDENT, POLICE AND RFS IN CHAU THANH(D), VINH BINH(P), PEACEFULLY ENTERED AO BUONG PAGODA AND ORDERED DRAFTDODGERS AND DESERTERS TO SURRENDER. AGAIN CROWD ATTACKED POLICE. ONE RF WAS KILLED AND SEVERAL NPS WOUNDED, ONE SERIOUSLY. OUR REP IN VINH BINH REPORTS SITUATION NOW TENSE THROUGHOUT PROVINCE.

2. GVN AUTHORITIES HAVE SO FAR ATTEMPTED AVOID CLASHES WITH CAMBODIANS BY NOTIFYING MONKS IN ADVANCE. AND NOT FORCIBLY ENDTERING PAGODAS. WARNING ALLOWED DRAFTDODGERS/DESERTERS TO CONFIDENTIAL

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SURRENDED VOLUNTARILY AND AVOID CONFRONTATION WITH MONKS.

## 3. IN OTHER PROVINCES WITH LARGE CAMBODIAN POPULATION SITUATION AS FOLLOWS:

BA XUYEN PROVINCE CHIEF TOLD OUR REP THAT HE CONSIDERS
ISSUE CLOSED AS 800 DRAFTDODGERS/DESERTERS HAVE VOLUNTARILY
SURRENDERED AFTER REPRESENTATIONS TO MONKS. IN VINH BINH(P)
GVN HAS SO FAR ARRESTED 516 DRAFTDODGERS/DESERTERS WITH
OPERATIONS CONTINUING. OPERATIONS NOT YET COMPLETED IN BAC LIEU(P).
PROVINCE CHIEF FEARS POSSIBILITY OF TROUBLE SHOULD HE MOVE
FORCEFULLY AGAINST PAGODAS SHELTERING MORE MILITANT ELEMENTS.
MCNAMARA
UNQUOTE
MARTIN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

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To: STATE

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